

## **Annual Report 2011/12**

Since our last Annual Parish Meeting, there have been elections. At the elections we said goodbye to Sharon Thery and Graham Walmsley and thank them both for their contribution to the Parish over the years. We also welcomed Beverley Golden and Judy Saxby as new councillors, Judy had served as a councillor previously, and we look forward to working with them.

We also welcome Sue Bennison as our additional NFDC Councillor following the death of Alan Shotter.

David Harrison remains as our County Councillor.

Within the Parish Council there are differing political opinions but we work together successfully as a team, with our clerk, Melanie Wathen, the officers and the groundsmen. A cheerful happy team, please call in the office any time.

### **Highlights of 2011/12**

#### **Village Fete**

As ever a spectacular day, the sun shone on a very large attendance. The village eye was again very popular and we had many more stalls providing a wide variety of organisations and activities.

#### **Boot sales**

The boot sale at Lloyd recreation ground has become a regular, well attended event and Derek Hawkins tells me that they will continue throughout 2012 on a Saturday morning. Get together your items for 'recycling' and make a bit of money for the benefit of our Youth group and yourselves.



## **Youth Facilities**

Good News! After many years and false starts, the prospect of a dedicated Marchwood youth facility located on Lloyd Recreation Ground is becoming a reality. Planning approval has been received and Tenders have gone out. It is likely that we will 'lay' the first brick in early Summer. There are many previous and current councillors, and many other individuals in the village, who have struggled to provide this facility for our youth, and I, on behalf of the current council, would like to thank them for their contribution. Let's make a special day of the grand opening.



## **New Vicar of St John's Church**

As reported in the Spring 2012 issue of the Village News, in November 2011 we welcomed our new Vicar to St John's and I was privileged to attend the Licensing Service on behalf of the Parish Council.

## **Good Citizens Award**

This was not awarded in 2011, however I am pleased to tell you that Melanie & I attended a full assembly at the Junior School to launch the 2012 'Diversity in the Community' project. Every child in the school will be invited to contribute and to build a picture of their family life in this and any previous communities. Prizes will be awarded and every child who participates will receive a certificate from the Parish Council. From a personal point of view, I love the opportunity of visiting our school and witnessing the happy, cheerful faces of the pupils. We are fortunate in Marchwood that we have such a close relationship between the Parish Council and the Junior

School. I hope, shortly, to take the opportunity to meet the new Head Teacher of the Infants School and reinforce the close relationship that the Parish Council had with Mrs Green, the previous Head Teacher.

### Marchwood Military Port

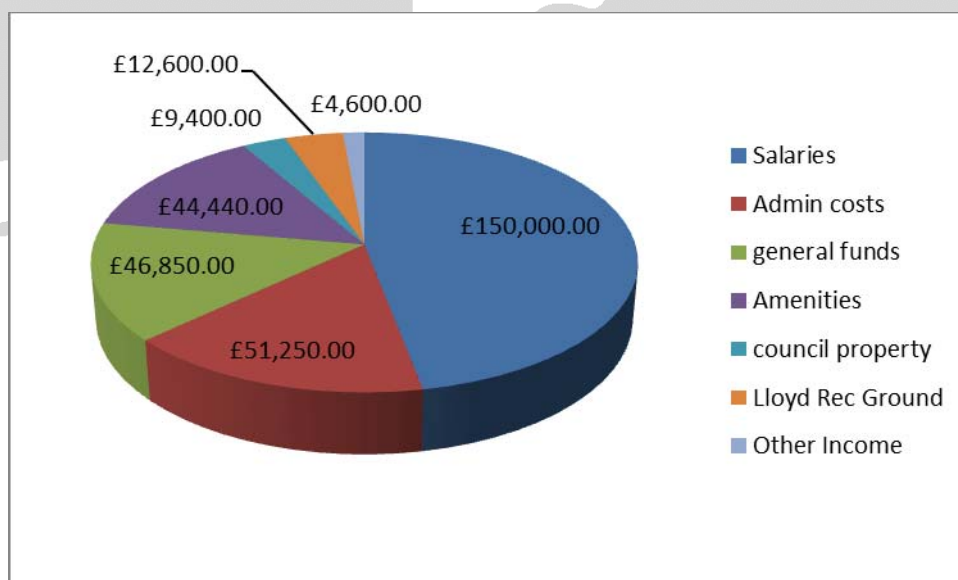
On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2012, the Defence Minister, Mr Peter Luff, visited Marchwood Military Port. Unfortunately I was unable to meet the Minister personally, although both our District Councillors, Cllrs Alison Hoare and Sue Bennison together with Cllr. Ron Vango-Fisher and Julian Lewis MP once again used the opportunity to impress on the minister the concerns held in the Village as to the possible vacation of the base by the current military establishment and at worse, its' replacement by a container or cruise liner facility. The Minister advised the delegation that at least 10 companies had shown a commercial interest in the site including ABP. I'm sure that the majority of electors in Marchwood would prefer that the status quo be maintained as our relationship with the Military Port is valued by us all. We have been advised that the final proposals will be published in May and we await these with trepidation.

This has been my second year as Chairman and I would like to thank all my fellow councillors, officers, ground staff and the electors of Marchwood for their continued support.

### Expenditure and Income 2011/12

The precept for 2011/12 represented a decrease of 1%

The amount payable to Marchwood Parish Council this year for a band 'D' property was £96.93.



## Your Parish Councillors

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